

DETAILED ACTION

37 CFR 1.105 REQUIREMENT FOR INFORMATION

1. Applicant is required under 37 CFR 1.105 to provide the following information that the examiner has determined is reasonably necessary to the examination of this application.
2. There are numerous other co-pending applications and issued patents, which disclose and claim very similar and/or identical subject matter. Please note, independent claims 13, 16, and 21 are generic as to the particular shape (e.g., arched strip; Belleville washer; sleeve; etc.) of the spring/socket. The Applicants have numerous other co-pending applications and issued patents claiming, e.g., Belleville washers, arched strips, sleeves, etc. as the spring/socket. Also note, several applications have been amended to include a scope that also read on the claims of the instant application.
3. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.105 and MPEP 704.11(a) subsection G, applicant is respectfully requested to disclose all co-pending applications and related patents (please see the non-exhaustive list below of applications and issued patents that the USPTO believes may be related) and identify the specific claims of those applications and/or patents which may present double patenting issues with the instant application claims. This requirement is reasonably necessary to examination because, based on an initial review of the applications, there is a significant degree of overlap in claimed subject matter, thus requiring an analysis of commonality of claimed subject matter to determine patentability under 35 USC 101 double patenting and/or obviousness type double patenting. Because the applicant is presumably far

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more cognizant of the contents of the claims in these applications than any Office staff, and has access to the source documents by which such comparison could be done better than within the Office, it is reasonable to require the applicant to provide the information needed to determine the commonality among the claims.

4. Should the Applicant believe that Double Patenting exists, then the Applicant is invited to file Terminal Disclaimers and/or amend the currently pending claims in the interest of expediting the prosecution of the current application. The Applicant should note that a terminal disclaimer is effective to overcome an obviousness type double patenting rejection, but will not overcome a "same type" double patenting rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

5. Non-exhaustive (i.e., exemplary) list of possible related co-pending applications (among others) and patents (among others):

10256160
10706766
10715969
10725297
10725296
10782981
11037921
11208664
10784597
10282356
10294983
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09970479

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10140153

10151280

10256160

10256160

10725305

10782981

10782981

10833737

10783152

10784597

10294982

10282356

10282356

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6. This requirement is subject to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.134, 1.135 and 1.136 and has a shortened statutory period of 2 months. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Javier G. Blanco whose telephone number is 571-272-4747. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.), first Friday of the bi-week off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Isabella can be reached on (571)272-4749. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300 for regular communications and After Final communications. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0858.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

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system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Javier G. Blanco/

Examiner, Art Unit 3774

/David H Willse/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3738